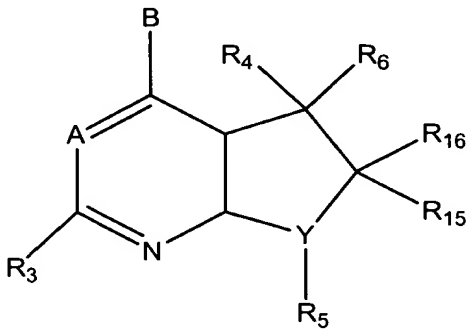
In the Claims

Claim 2 (Twice Amended). A compound according to claim 1 of the formula



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein

A is $-CR_7$ or N;

B is $-NR_1R_2$, $-CR_1R_2R_{11}$, $-C(=CR_2R_{12})R_1$, $-NHCHR_1R_2$, $-OCHR_1R_2$, $-SCHR_1R_2$, $-CHR_2OR_{12}$, $-CHR_2SR_{12}$, $-C(S)R_2$ or $-C(O)R_2$;

Y is -CH or N;

R_1 is C_1-C_6 hydrocarbyl which may optionally be substituted with one or two substituents R_8 independently selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, CF_3, C_1-C_4 alkoxy, -O-CO-(C_1-C_4 hydrocarbyl), -O-CO-NH(C_1-C_4 hydrocarbyl), -O-CO-N(C_1-C_4 hydrocarbyl)(C_1-C_2 hydrocarbyl), -NH(C_1-C_4 hydrocarbyl), -N(C_1-C_2 alkyl)(C_1-C_4 hydrocarbyl), -S(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -N(C_1-C_4)CO(C_1-C_4 hydrocarbyl), -NHCO(C_1-C_4 hydrocarbyl), -COO(C_1-C_4 hydrocarbyl)hydrocarbyl, -CONH(C_1-C_4 hydrocarbyl), -CON(C_1-C_4 hydrocarbyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), CN, NO_2, -SO(C_1-C_4 hydrocarbyl) and $-SO_2$(C_1-C_4 hydrocarbyl), and wherein said C_1-C_6 hydrocarbyl and the (C_1-C_4)hydrocarbyl moieties in the foregoing R_1 groups may optionally contain one carbon-carbon double or triple bond;

R_2 is C_1-C_{12} hydrocarbyl, aryl or -(C_1-C_4 hydrocarbylene)aryl wherein said aryl is phenyl, naphthyl, thienyl, benzothienyl, pyridyl, quinolyl, pyrazinyl, pyrimidyl, imidazolyl, furanyl, benzofuranyl, benzothiazolyl, isothiazolyl, benzisothiazolyl, benzisoxazolyl, benzimidazolyl, indolyl, or benzoxazolyl; 3- to 8-membered cycloalkyl or -(C_1-C_6 alkylene)cycloalkyl, wherein one or two of the ring carbons of said cycloalkyl having at least 4 ring members and the cycloalkyl moiety of said -(C_1-C_6 alkylene)cycloalkyl having at least 4 ring members may optionally be replaced by an oxygen or sulfur atom or by N-R_9 wherein R_9 is hydrogen or C_1-C_4 alkyl; and wherein each of the foregoing R_2 groups may optionally be substituted with from one to three substituents independently selected from chloro, fluoro and C_1-C_4 alkyl, or with one substitutent selected from bromo, iodo, C_1-C_6 alkoxy,

-O-CO-(C_1-C_6 alkyl), -O-CO-N(C_1-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), -S(C_1-C_6 alkyl), CN, NO_2, -SO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), and -SO_2(C_1-C_4 alkyl), and wherein said C_1-C_{12} hydrocarbyland the C_1-C_4 hydrocarboylene moiety of said -(C_1-C_4 hydrocarbylene)aryl may optionally contain one carbon-carbon double or triple bond;

or -NR_1R_2 or -$CR_1R_2R_{11}$ may form a saturated 5- to 8-membered carbocyclic ring which may optionally contain one or two carbon-carbon double bonds and in which one or two of the ring carbons may optionally be replaced by an oxygen or sulfur atom;

R_3 is methyl, ethyl, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, cyano, methoxy, OCF_3, methylthio, methylsulfonyl, CH_2OH, or CH_2OCH_3;

R_4 is hydrogen, C_1-C_4 hydrocarbyl, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, C_1-C_4 alkoxy, trifluoromethoxy, -CH_2OCH_3, -$CH_2OCH_2CH_3$, -$CH_2CH_2OCH_3$, -CH_2OF_3, CF_3, amino, nitro, -NH(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -$N(CH_3)_2$, -$NHCOCH_3$, -$NHCONHCH_3$, -SO_n(C_1-C_4 hydrocarbyl) wherein n is 0, 1 or 2, cyano, hydroxy, -CO(C_1-C_4 hydrocarbyl), -CHO, cyano or -COO(C_1-C_4 alkyl) wherein said C_1-C_4 hydrocarbyl may optionally contain one double or triple bond and may optionally be substituted with one substituent selected from hydroxy, amino, -$NHCOCH_3$, -NH(C_1-C_2 alkyl), -N(C_1-C_2 alkyl)$_2$, -COO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -CO(C_1-,C_4 alkyl), C_1-C_3 alkoxy, C_1-C_3 thioalkyl, fluoro, chloro, cyano and nitro;

R_5 is phenyl, naphthyl, thienyl, benzothienyl, pyridyl, quinolyl, pyrazinyl, pyrimidyl, furanyl, benzofuranyl, benzothiazolyl, or indolyl, wherein each of the above groups R_5 is substituted with from one to three substituents independently selected from fluoro, chloro, C_1-C_6 alkyl, and C_1-C_6 alkoxy, or with one substitutent selected from hydroxy, iodo, bromo, formyl, cyano, nitro, trifluoromethyl, amino, -(C_1-C_6 alkyl)O(C_1-C_6)alkyl, -$NHCH_3$, -$N(CH_3)_2$, -COOH, -COO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -CO(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -SO_2NH(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -SO_2N(C_1-C_4 alkyl)(C_1-C_2 alkyl), -SO_2NH_2, -$NHSO_2$(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -S(C_1-C_6 alkyl) and -SO_2(C_1-C_6 alkyl) , and wherein the C_1-C_4 alkyl and C_1-C_6 alkyl moieties of the foregoing R_5 groups may optionally be substituted with one or two fluoro groups or with one substitutent selected from hydroxy, amino, methylamino, dimethylamino and acetyl;

R_6 is hydrogen or C_1-C_6 alkyl, wherein C_1-C_6 alkyl may optionally be substituted with one hydroxy, methoxy, ethoxy or fluoro group;

R_7 is hydrogen, methyl, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, cyano, hydroxy, -O(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -C(O)(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -C(O)O(C_1-C_4 alkyl), -OCF_3, CF_3, -CH_2OH, -CH_2OCH_3 or -CH_2OCH_2CH3;

R_{11} is hydrogen, hydroxy, fluoro, or methoxy;

R_{12} is hydrogen or C_1-C_4 alkyl; and

R_{16} and R_{17} are each independently, hydrogen, hydroxy, ethyl, ethyl, methoxy, or ethoxy, except that R_{16} and R_{17} are not both methoxy or ethoxy;

or R_{16} and R_{17} together form an oxo (=O) group;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of such compound.

Claim14 (Twice Amended). A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of (a) a disorder or condition the treatment of which can be effected or facilitated by antagonizing CRF or (b) a disorder or condition selected from inflammatory disorders, pain, asthma, psoriasis and allergies; generalized anxiety disorder; panic; phobias; obsessive-compulsive disorder; post-traumatic stress disorder; sleep disorders induced by stress; pain perception ; mood disorders, mood disorders associated with premenstrual syndrome, and postpartum depression; dysthemia; bipolar disorders; cyclothymia; chronic fatigue syndrome; stress-induced headache; cancer; irritable bowel syndrome, Crohn's disease; spastic colon; post operative ileus; ulcer; diarrhea; stress-induced fever; human immunodeficiency virus infections; neurodegenerative diseases, gastrointestinal diseases; eating disorder; hemorrhagic stress; chemical dependencies or addictions; drug or alcohol withdrawal symptoms; stress-induced psychotic episodes; euthyroid sick syndrome; syndrome of inappropriate antidiuretic hormone; obesity; infertility; head trauma; spinal cord trauma; ischemic neuronal damage; exitotoxic neuronal damage; epilepsy; stroke; immune dysfunctions; muscular spasms; urinary incontinence; senile dementia of the Alzheimer's type; multi infarct dementia; amyotrophic lateral sclerosis; hypertension; tachycardia; congestive heart failure; osteoporosis; premature birth; hypoglycemia, and Syndrome X in a mammal or bird, comprising an amount of a compound according to claim 1 that is effective in the treatment of such disorder or condition, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

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Claim15 (Twice Amended). A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 14 for the treatment of a disorder selected from inflammatory disorders; pain, asthma, psoriasis and allergies; generalized anxiety disorder; panic; phobias; obsessive compulsive disorder; post-traumatic stress disorder; sleep disorders induced by stress; pain perception; mood disorders; dysthemia; bipolar disorders; cyclothymia; fatigue syndrome; stress induced headache; cancer; irritable bowel syndrome, Crohn's disease; spastic colon; human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infections; neurodegenerative diseases; gastrointestinal diseases; eating disorders; chemical dependencies and addictions; obesity; infertility; head traumas; spinal cord trauma; ischemic neuronal damage; excitotoxic neuronal damage; epilepsy; stroke; immune dysfunctions; muscular spasms; urinary incontinence; senile dementia of the Alzheimer's type; multi infarct dementia; amyotrophic lateral sclerosis; and hypoglycemia in a mammal.

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Claim 29 (Amended). A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein R_{24} and R_{25} are selected from $-CF_3$, $-CHF_2$, CF_2CF_3, and CH_2CF_3.

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Claim 32 (Amended). A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 14 for treatment of depression, selected from the group consisting of major depression, single episode depression, recurrent depression, and child abuse induced depression.

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Claim 36 (Amended). A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 14 for treatment of stress induced immune dysfunctions selected from the group consisting of porcine stress syndrome, bovine shipping fever, equine paroxysmal fibrillation, confinement dysfunction in chicken, sheering stress in sheep, and human animal interaction stress in dogs.

Claim 39 (Amended). A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 42 wherein the cerebral ischemia is cerebral hippocampal ischemia damage.

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Claim 40 (Amended). A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 14 for treatment of social phobia, agoraphobia, and specific phobias.

Please add the following claims:

Claim 41. The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 14 wherein the pain perception is fibromyalgia.

Claim 42. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 14 wherein the ischemic neuronal damage is cerebral ischemia.

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Claim 43. The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 15 wherein the mood disorders is depression or postpartum depression.

Claim 44. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 15 wherein the ischemic neuronal damage is cerebral ischemia.

Claim 45. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 15 wherein the mammal is a human.